

## RESTING PERIOD

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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**NEW BRONZE-CASTING FURNACE BUILT;**  
**CHROMIUM MINE OPENED IN SERBIA**

NEW FURNACE FOR CASTING BRONZE -- Borba, No 93, 19 Apr 49

The workers of the "Rikardo Becic" Enterprise have built a bronze-casting furnace of Yugoslav materials. In the past, bronze has been cast in graphite crucibles which were imported from abroad. These have often been late in arriving at the plant and have not lasted long, and the enterprise has found it difficult to fulfill its plan.

The furnace which the "Rikardo Becic" workers have built in their spare time has many advantages over graphite crucibles. It is made of steel, and its interior is lined with firebrick. Whereas coke is used as fuel for casting bronze in graphite crucibles, oil, which is much cheaper, is used for the steel furnace. The oil is conducted into the furnace through pipes from a small tank nearby. The admission of oil and air into the furnace is regulated by special apparatus.

Twice as much bronze can be cast in the new furnace as in graphite crucibles. The casting process is much quicker and easier. Working conditions are better, as the radiation from the furnace is not so intense. Manpower requirements have been cut in half.

NEW CHROMIUM MINE OPENED -- Glas, No 1188, 20 Apr 49

A large deposit of chromium ore has been discovered near Djakovica in the Kosmet. Preliminary work in preparation for its exploitation is in progress at the new mine just opened there. Diamond drills and other mining equipment have already been received at the mine.

Three experienced miners from Bor and Trepcia are teaching the new miners, who until recently were farmers in the neighborhood of the new mine.

The new mine, which will be connected with the Metchija-Prizren railroad line, will be an important factor in the economic development of the Kosmet.

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